

UP25

(CIA)

AN OUSTED OFFICIAL OF THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY HAS CHARGED THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE 10 AMERICANS IMPRISONED IN RED CHINA ARE AGENTS OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

THE FORMER OFFICIAL, CHARLES EDMUNDSON, SUGGESTED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE BANNED AMERICAN NEWSMEN FROM VISITING COMMUNIST CHINA TO COVER UP THE TRUE ACTIVITIES OF SOME OF THE PRISONERS.

EDMUNDSON, WHO WAS FIRED FROM HIS USIA POST IN KOREA FOR PUBLICLY CRITICIZING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, MADE THE STATEMENTS YESTERDAY OVER A TELEVISION PROGRAM (COLLEGE PRESS CONFERENCE, ABC).

EDMUNDSON SAID THAT "CERTAINLY" TWO OF THE MEN HE IDENTIFIED ONLY AS "DOWNEY AND FECTEAU" WERE CIA AGENTS. THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS IDENTIFIED TWO OF THE IMPRISONED AMERICANS AS JOHN T. DOWNEY OF NEW BRITAIN, CONN., AND RICHARD FECTEAU OF LYNN, MASS.

NEITHER THE CIA NOR THE USIA COMMENTED ON EDMUNDSON'S STATEMENTS.  
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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

UP26

(USIA)

THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY CONTENTS THAT "CONFLICTING" FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS BY CONGRESSMEN AND HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS "TEND TO CREATE CONFUSION ABROAD" ABOUT OFFICIAL U.S. POLICY.

THIS IS ONE OF THE "BUILT-IN ROAD BLOCKS" THAT PUTS LIMITATIONS ON THE U.S. INFORMATION PROGRAM ABROAD, THE AGENCY REPORTED. IT SAID THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE WHEN THE STATEMENTS ARE OUT OF LINE WITH STATE DEPARTMENT POLICIES.

THE AGENCY'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INFORMATION SAID IN ITS 12TH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS THAT THE CONFLICTING STATEMENTS "GENERATE DOUBT AS TO JUST WHAT THE U.S. POLICY AND POSITION REALLY IS."

THE COMMISSION SID IT FELT THAT USIA "CAN AND SHOULD MAKE A GREATER CONTRIBUTION" BOTH IN POLICY FORMULATION AND IN PROPOSALS FOR THE BETTER PRESENTATION OF U.S. POLICIES.

USIA CHIEF ARTHUR LAWSON SAID THE VOICE OF AMERICA NEVER GAVE HUNGARIAN REBELS ANY REASON TO EXPECT MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. THE VOICE, HE SAID, BROADCASTS FACTS "IN A QUIET, UNEMOTIONAL WAY." HE SAID "WE DIDN'T IMPLIEDLY OR EXPRESSLY GIVE THEM ANY EXPECTATION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON OUR PART."

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